

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

24 October 1991

AM 10:00 CONVENE, 441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of minutes:

19 September 1991

B. Dates of next meetings:

21 November 1991

19 December 1991

C. Confirmation of 1992 schedule of meeting dates.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. American Battle Monuments Commission

CFA 24/Oct/91-1, Korean War Veterans Memorial, between the Reflecting Pool and Independence Avenue, S.W., Ash Woods near Lincoln Memorial. Revised concept designs. (Previous: CFA 26/Jun/91-1.)

B. Department of State, International Center

CFA 24/Oct/91-2, Government of Singapore. Final design for chancery building. (Previous: CFA 25/Oct/90-2.)

C. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

CFA 24/Oct/91-3, F Street Plaza and Eighth Street, N.W., between E and F Streets, N.W. Design for interim improvements.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 24 October 1991

D. General Services Administration

CFA 24/Oct/91-4, Federal Trade Commission, 6th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Design for paving and sidewalk repair.

E. Department of Veterans Affairs

CFA 24/Oct/91-5, Veterans Administration Medical Center, North Capitol and Irving Streets, N.W. Plans for interim child development facility.

F. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

- a. S.L. 92-1, 92-2, 92-9, 2201 N Street, N.W., 2225 N Street, N.W. Multi-story residential building; additions and alterations to existing structure. Permit. (Previous: S.L. 91-66, CFA 21/Feb/91.)
- b. S.L. 92-8, 445 12th Street, S.W. The Portals, Phase II; new office building. Conceptual. (Previous: CFA 20/Apr/89-1.)
- c. S.L. 92-7, 809 Fifteenth Street, N.W. Southern Building; enclosure for sidewalk cafe. Conceptual.
- d. Appendix I.

2. Old Georgetown Act

- a. O.G. 91-76, 3900 Reservoir Road, N.W. Georgetown University Hospital new research building.
- b. Appendix II.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 24 October 1991

E x e c u t i v e S e s s i o n

G. National Park Service, National Capital Region

CFA 24/Oct/91-6, White House Guard Houses.
Revised design.

SHIPSTEAD-LUCE SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 91- 157	1940 Shepherd Street, N.W. John D. Rockefeller IV Residence	Pedestrian bridges - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for three proposed pedestrian bridges.

S.L. 91-158	1101 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. JAD Associates Evening Star Building	New window openings - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed new window openings.

S.L. 91-159 HPA. 91-632	637-639-641 Indiana Avenue, N.W. 637: Fred Litwin 639: Lawrence Sherman 641: Dominic Cardella Commercial	Alterations and renovation - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed renovation of and alterations to three commercial buildings. Applicant has agreed to exclude the lantern over side door of no. 641 Indiana Avenue. No objection to proposed awning and signs.

S.L. 91-124 HPA. 91-448	2201 N Street, N.W. Citistate, IBG No. 1 Ltd. Part. Westbrooke Place	New building and additions - revised concept
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ACTION: Returned without Action. Case withdrawn by applicant and superseded by cases S.L. 92-1 and S.L. 92-2.

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 92-5	310 First Street, S.E.	Handicapped
HPA. 92-9	Republican National Committee	access ramp
	Headquarters	- permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed handicapped access ramp and relandscaping.

S.L. 92-6	5742 Oregon Avenue, N.W.	Fence
	Pierre L. Nys	- permit
	Residence	

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed fence.

OLD GEORGETOWN SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 91-105 HPA. 91-581	3630 Prospect Street, N.W. William McGowan Residence	Alterations and addition - revised concept

ACTION: No objection to concept design for proposed street front alterations or to the rear addition as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 11 October 1991.

O.G. 91-108 HPA. 91-586	1637 34th Street, N.W. Robert Wennett Residence	Alterations and addition - conceptual
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ACTION: Recommend AGAINST concept as submitted. Proposed alterations of and additions to this small, freestanding 19th-century residence would require demolition of the existing structure. Replacement structure would significantly alter the scale and character of the original. Recommend every effort be made to preserve in full, and in situ, the exterior front portion of the existing house.

O.G. 91-110 HPA. 91-590	1237 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. R. Levy Hats in the Belfry	Sign color change - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed color change.

O.G. 91-114 HPA. 91-623	2453 P Street, N.W. Russell Bridges Residence	New iron steps and renovation - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations.

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 91-117	3259-61 M Street, N.W.	Alterations to
HPA. 91-629	Lynx Enterprises	storefront
	Retail	- conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept for proposed alterations to existing shop front. Submit working drawings for review when ready.

O.G. 91-119	3295 M Street, N.W.	Awning
HPA. 91-639	Paul Loukas	- permit
	Winston's Restaurant	

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed awning replacement without lettering. No objection to street address on valance.

O.G. 91-120	1235 29th Street, N.W.	Meter enclosure
HPA. 91-643	J. Wallace Tutt	and rooftop A/C
	Residence	unit - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for meter enclosure shown in supplemental drawing received and dated 8 October 1991 or to proposed rooftop A/C unit provided said unit is painted a neutral color.

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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS PRE-MEETING TOUR -

24 October 1991

CONVENE: 8:00 AM, Pension Building, Suite 312,
441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

1. The Portals, Phase II; 445 12th Street, S.W.
New office building. Conceptual.
2. F Street Plaza and Eighth Street, N.W., between E
and F Streets, N.W. Design for interim improvements in
front of the National Portrait Gallery.

Members Present:

The Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
The Hon. Neil H. Porterfield, Vice Chairman
The Hon. George Hartman
The Hon. Robert Peck

Staff Present:

Donald B. Myer
Jeffrey R. Carson

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MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

24 October 1991

The meeting was convened at 10:05 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at the Pension Building, 441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., after a tour of project sites.

Members present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
 Hon. Neil H. Porterfield, Vice-Chairman
 Hon. Adele Chatfield-Taylor
 Hon. George E. Hartman
 Hon. Robert A. Peck

Staff present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
 Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
 Mrs. Sue Kohler
 Mr. Jose Martinez Canino

National Capital
Planning Commission
staff present: Mr. Patrick Tribe

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of the minutes of the 19 September 1991 meeting. The minutes were approved without objection.

B. Dates of next meetings, approved as:

21 November 1991
19 December 1991

C. Confirmation of 1992 schedule of meeting dates. The Chairman said he would prefer the 22nd to the 15th October, as proposed in the schedule.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. American Battle Monuments Commission

CFA 24/OCT/91-1, Korean War Veterans Memorial, between the Reflecting Pool and Independence Avenue, S.W., Ash Woods near Lincoln Memorial. Revised concept designs. (Previous: CFA 26/JUN/91-1.) Staff member Sue Kohler said that the last time the Commission had reviewed the design, there had been a concern that the effect of the large number of free-standing figures, in close proximity with a wall covered with images, would be excessive and confusing, and would diminish the impact of the memorial as a whole. She said that since that time, the architect had restudied and revised his design, and it was this design that the American Battle Monuments Commission would present at this meeting. She introduced General Raymond Davis, from the Korean War Veterans Memorial Advisory Board, to begin the presentation.

General Davis said he was speaking on behalf of General Stilwell, the Advisory Board, the Battle Monuments Commission, and various organizations of Korean War veterans, as well as the Korean Embassy and the Hyundai and Samsung groups, which had lent their support. He observed that the previous presentations had documented evolutionary changes to the basic design concept made by Cooper/Lecky Associates, architects; the one to be shown at this meeting, however, was developed by the ABMC and the Advisory Board, and only put into presentation form by the architect.

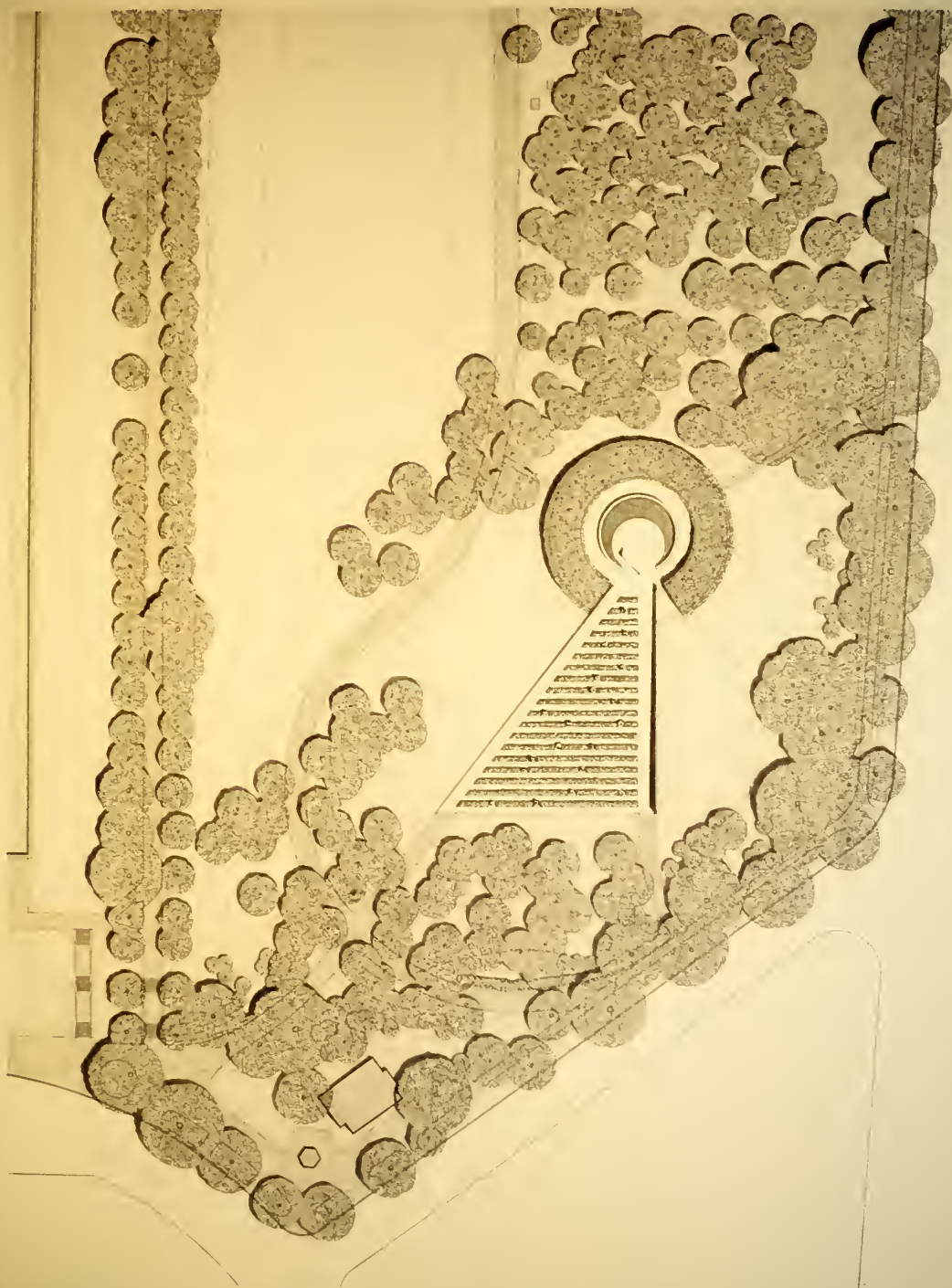
General Davis said that at General Kelly's request he would recap the history of the project; he noted that it had been made clear from the beginning that there was to be a column of troops, images of support troops, and a chapel area. He detailed all the adjustments that had been made at the request of the reviewing agencies, including this commission, and the support, until recently, of a column of thirty-eight soldiers as part of the memorial. He said \$14 million had been raised, and \$2 million spent on the design with nothing to show for it; he said they could not abandon it at this point.

Architect Kent Cooper from Cooper/Lecky Associates then showed slides. He recalled how they had worked at first with the architects of the competition-winning design to solve its problems; then revised the design and set it, unsuccessfully, in the landscaping of Constitution Gardens; then made it smaller and more integrated, introducing the wall concept; and finally how they had tried to get the wall and the figures to work together. At the last review in June, the Commission still thought the design did not work, that the whole was less than the sum of its parts. He recalled the Commission's

recommendation to eliminate the free-standing sculpture, but said the various organizing commissions felt they could not do that because a commitment had been made to so many people that the figures were the basic theme of the memorial.

Mr. Cooper said that in the new design the number of figures had been cut in half, and the configuration of the group was entirely different; the mural on the wall had been simplified, with fewer figures used. He said the size was about one-half that of the Vietnam Memorial. The vegetation of the Ash Grove area had been maintained, the memorial was still oriented on the Jefferson-Lincoln Memorial axis, the main entrance was still from the Lincoln Memorial area, the three memorial elements had been retained, and there was still a sense of mounting a hill towards the flag; there was a difference in grade of only about 5 feet from the entrance area to the flag. Mr. Cooper said the field on which the soldiers were placed had been enlarged and they had been spread farther apart, but the total area had not been enlarged. The triangular-shaped field was divided into 38 rows, or "stripes", alternately granite and planted with low-growing juniper. Although the figures might appear to be scattered, they were still placed in two files, in correct military position and, he thought, correct aesthetically, too. They were set in the planted rows, which recalled vaguely a cultivated field, dressed in foul-weather gear, struggling against a fierce wind. On the wall a large face had been placed at the end of each row in the field; these represented the support troops, and in their eyes was reflected the role they played in the war; smaller images occupied the area between the faces. Mr. Cooper said the wall would be 10 feet high at its beginning and would get lower as the grade increased, ending at the flag with a height of 4 feet. Beyond the flag the visitor would proceed into the memorial grove, where there would be a pool and an inscription dedicating the area to those who had given their lives in the war. Those who did not want to go in the "chapel" area could go around the copse of trees on a circular path and proceed back through the field and wall area or exit from several side paths. Mr. Cooper noted the transparency of the design, pointing out that those walking or driving on Independence Avenue could look through the memorial area and see the Reflecting Pool.

Louis Nelson, the designer of the wall images, said he had been looking toward simplification in his new design, and he described his work in more detail, showing samples of the etched black granite and a full scale paper mock-up. Mr. Cooper noted that the granite would be a crystalline form, not a solid black like that used for the Vietnam wall, because it worked better for the etched figures; he thought also that the greyer color would harmonize better with the other elements of the memorial.



KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL

THE NATIONAL MALL • WASHINGTON, D.C. • COOPER-LECKY ARCHITECTS, P.C. • OCTOBER 24, 1991

24 October 1991 - 1

The Korean War Memorial



24 October 1991 - 1

The Korean War Memorial

Before the discussion began, the Chairman recalled that Vice-Chairman Porterfield had recused himself from previous discussions of this project, because of his academic association with the competition-winning design team in the landscape architecture department of Penn State University, and because of the lawsuit they were bringing against the organizing commissions. The Chairman said that since the design to be considered bore little relation to the competition design, the Commission would like to avail itself of Professor Porterfield's expertise and call on him for advice. He said the Office of Government Ethics had been consulted, and they had some question about the propriety of Professor Porterfield's voting. He asked the applicants for their opinion, and General Davis asked for a few minutes to talk with his colleagues. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. to accommodate General Davis.

The meeting was reconvened at 11:00 a.m. General Davis said that although he had some concern about the legal implications, and the fact that a lawsuit was going on, he thought the Vice-Chairman's input would be valuable, and it would be all right for him to participate.

Mr. Peck was the first to comment. He confined his remarks to answering General Davis's previous statements about the Commission's continuing demands for changes in the design. He acknowledged that the Commission had to be considerate of the applicant's time and money, but he thought the Commission had been consistent in the treatment of this in comparison with other memorials; he noted the success in getting the Vietnam Women's Memorial and the Black Revolutionary War Memorial applicants to change their design direction. He thought the record would show that the Commission had tried to accommodate the applicants and meet whenever it could to look at whatever they wanted to present. He said the Commission could not design the memorial but could only give suggestions to try to fulfill its mandate to secure the best design. He added that just because a smaller number of figures had been suggested, that did not mean that any design that met that criterion would be accepted.

General Davis said what had really hurt them was the total support they got for the design concept at the beginning. The Chairman reminded him that the Commission's approvals were not cumulative, that they could change on the basis of what the members were shown. He said every submission had to be approached as a new design, and each had to receive the members' best professional judgment.

The Chairman then questioned Mr. Cooper on the apparent difference, according to the model, between the material used for the paved "stripes" in the field of soldiers, and that



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The Korean War Memorial

used on the adjoining walks. Mr. Cooper said it was the same material, a grey granite, but with a different finish--flame finish for the stripes and a honed finish for the walks. He said the planted stripes would be a grey-green variety of juniper, and the statues would be a light grey metal, probably aluminum. In answer to Mr. Hartman's question, Mr. Cooper said the juniper could not be walked on; there would be some 18-inch cross paths throughout the field for visitors who did not want to follow the circulation up and down the rows.

The Chairman said he was not sure visitors should be going through this abstract, very moving setting of wind-driven figures. He said he liked the series of stripes, feeling that they gave a sense of openness and also disassociated the figures from the wall; he was, however, concerned about the use of more granite in this area. He thought also that the billboard-sized faces on the wall were not necessary; since the images could be examined from close distance, along the walk, they could be made smaller and thus appear slightly blurred from the other side of the field; in this way they would not interfere with the visitor's perception of the sculpture.

Mr. Hartman thought that if the visitors were not allowed to walk around in the field of sculpture, but still wanted to examine the pieces closely, they would be able to do so at the apex, where several of the statues were placed close to the walks. He shared the Chairman's concern about the granite and thought the striped effect could be retained by using two different kinds of plant material. General Davis commented on the suggestion that visitors be kept out of the field of sculpture. He said he would be hesitant to do that because the effort had always been to let the veterans find themselves portrayed in the statues; he thought it essential that visitors be able to get close to them. The Chairman thought the figures on the wall would be able to fulfill that function.

Vice-Chairman Porterfield said he had heard the words "compromise" and "concession" used frequently in regard to this project, but he thought the Commission was now looking at a new scheme. He said he had two problems: (1) the difficulty in integrating several landscape elements, and (2) the question of how this memorial would speak to future generations--how would it tell the story of the Korean War?

Mr. Cooper addressed the Vice-Chairman's concerns. He said he had been very conscious of integrating the different landscape elements. He had responded to the Historic Preservation Review Board's request that he do as little as possible to the site by using the existing trees in the memorial design, infilling with others, and planting the area

with grass. The bosque of lindens enclosing the memorial grove had been chosen for the grey-green underside of their leaves, which he thought tied in nicely with the color of the junipers in the field of soldiers. The rise toward the flag tied in with the natural grade on the site. As to the story that would be imparted to future generations, he thought the vision of the wind-driven, shrouded figures, not blatantly military, would convey what it was like to be a soldier in the Korean War.

Ms. Chatfield-Taylor agreed with the Vice-Chairman that this was really a new scheme. She said she was impressed with the beauty of the bosque of trees and the quality of the sculpture, but was still convinced that there was too much going on; the memorial seemed to be a grouping of details rather than an integrated idea. She thought the time constraints mentioned by General Davis could be dealt with and were not important when one considered that the memorial would be on the Mall for a very long time. She added that visitors were always a feature of any memorial, and they should be thought of as part of the scheme. General Davis commented that he thought this would be the most visited memorial on the Mall, because it would portray so well the sacrifices of service in the noble cause of freedom.

Vice-Chairman Porterfield commented that there was no contest here between the literal and the abstract, that the important thing was that the memorial evoke memory, understanding, and feeling. He observed that there was nothing more appealing at the Vietnam Memorial than to see families touching names; the memorial improved with the addition of people. In the case of this design for the Korean War Memorial, he was concerned that the field of soldiers would lose its impact when it was filled with people.

The Chairman told General Davis that the Commission needed some time to consider what had been said before voting. He said the members would vote when the meeting was reconvened. He then turned to item "C" on the agenda, since a representative of the applicant for item "B" had not yet arrived.

C. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

CFA 24/OCT/91-3, F Street Plaza and Eighth Street, N.W., between E and F streets, N.W. Design for interim improvements. Staff member Jeffrey Carson said the interim plan was being presented in lieu of the master plan concept, which he showed on a drawing, adding that it was before the Commission for informal comment only. He then introduced Jay Brodie, director of PADC, to begin the presentation. Mr. Brodie commented on the lack of attention paid to L'Enfant's

8th Street axis; he said PADC would like to improve the appearance of the area until the master plan could be implemented. He introduced Jan Frankina from PADC to discuss the interim plans.

Ms. Frankina said the fountains, paving, and trees had deteriorated; the plan was to make repairs, clean up the area, remove some existing elements, and make it a part of the PADC arts district. Ms. Frankina pointed out two existing fountains. She said the one at the east end of the plaza had not been used for some time and was filled with trash; the one in the center, in front of the entrance to the Portrait Gallery, was not working either. In the interest of a low-maintenance solution, the east fountain would be removed and a tree planted to complete the bosque. The mechanism of the central fountain would be retained, but it would be covered over with planting beds and the walks across it retained. Bollards throughout the plaza would be removed, as would the granite planting boxes. Along 8th Street, benches would be removed and more lights added. F Street would be open to traffic on the south side, with parking encouraged along 8th Street; this would be helpful to the arts district and also bring a sense of security to the area. In answer to a question from Mr. Peck, Ms. Frankina said PADC would like to begin work right away on the interim plans, and implement the master plan in 2-3 years. Mr. Brodie said they would observe the results of the interim experiment and the changes that the new residential and arts district might bring, and then comeback to the Commission with a final master plan.

Mr. Peck said, looking at the master plan, that he thought F Street should be reopened, and it looked as though the curved line of trees in the plaza would preclude that. Ms. Frankina said one lane of traffic would be open on the south side, but she noted that the 8th Street axis terminated at this point, and it should be emphasized with a different treatment, rather than returning F Street to its normal traffic pattern. She said the PADC Arts Walk in the area would be extended up 8th Street and marked with special paving.

Mr. Hartman said he would like to see both north and south lanes open on F Street and traffic allowed to go through. Mr. Brodie said the north lane had remained open as a drop-off for the Portrait Gallery and would continue to be open for that purpose. Mr. Hartman said he should be marked so that people would know it was open. He turned to the master plan drawing, and he, too, commented on the pattern of tree planting in front of the Portrait Gallery, saying that he did not like the curve or the extension of the trees beyond the building. Comments were also made about the vista along F Street from the Treasury Building to Union Station, and

whether it would be advisable to go with a scheme that would obscure that.

Alan Fern, director of the Portrait Gallery, asked to comment. He said the number of visitors to his gallery was increasing, and he would like to have F Street open so that they could be dropped off in front of the building, but he would not like to have F Street become a thoroughfare. He said he would be happy to see the 1970's elements removed from the plaza, adding that the uneven pavement in the central fountain area was a hazard; however, he said he would like to see the fountain put back into operation. The Chairman asked Ms. Frankina what it would cost to do that; she said PADC had received a report that restoration would cost \$120,000, and operating expenses would be \$30,000 annually.

Vice-Chairman Porterfield thought that only the minimum amount of money should be spent until it was clear what direction the area would take. There was no further discussion, and the interim plans were unanimously approved.

Exhibit A

B. Department of State, International Center

CFA 24/OCT/91-2, Government of Singapore. Final design for chancery building. (Previous: CFA 25/OCT/90-2.) Staff member Jose Martinez noted that the building would function as a gateway to the International Center complex. He recalled the Commission's previous approval of the concept design, and said this submission included a change in materials, a new brick garden wall, and approval of working drawings. The basic material would be brick instead of granite; the screen had been removed in some places, and what remained would be aluminum instead of teak; and the detailing around the windows had in some cases been changed.

Herbert Johnson from the State Department spoke briefly about the policy of having the embassy buildings at the Center reflect the architecture of the country represented. He noted that the Austrian chancery had just opened, and the Egyptians had begun construction of their building. Mr. Johnson then introduced Ron Henderer from RTKL, architects, to discuss the proposed changes.

Mr. Henderer showed a sample of warm grey Roman brick; he said the reason for the change was that the brick was less expensive than the granite. The same reason had dictated the request to use aluminum rather than teak as the material for the screen and for window trim. He said it was not the initial cost that made the teak expensive, but the maintenance; he said in Singapore teak was always painted. Another reason for using the less expensive materials was that

the government architect of Singapore did not want the building to flaunt his country's newly-rich status. The charge d'affaires from Singapore, Ong Keng Yong, said there were two schools of thought in Singapore--whether their architecture should reflect the country's traditional frugality or its present prosperity. Mr. Henderer said he had tried to mingle the two in his design.

The Chairman said he was sorry to see the teak go and asked why it couldn't be allowed to weather naturally. Mr. Henderer said it would still require frequent maintenance. Mr. Hartman was worried about the dark color of the brick in relation to the light color of the other buildings in the Center. Mr. Henderer said there would be a mock-up of both the brick and the aluminum for the screen. Mr. Hartman said he thought stucco would be better if cost was a problem, because the dark brick would create too high a contrast with the light color of the spandrels and lintels. He pointed out also the heavy effect of the roof and brackets and the substantial piers between the windows--all changed from the previous design.

There was general agreement among the members that the design had gone backward; they did not find the first design ostentatious and they asked the architect to go back to it. There were no objections to the new brick garden wall.

Exhibit B

(The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:55 p.m. and reconvened at 1:45 p.m.)

Korean War Memorial: continuation of discussion, and vote.

The Chairman said the members had continued their deliberation on this project during lunch; he asked each of them to state their conclusions.

Mr. Peck said he thought the new design dealt with the figures in a better way, and he was pleased to see that they were somewhat abstracted. He said that at first they had appeared to him as funereal, akin to monuments in a cemetery, which he thought was not entirely inappropriate. But he still thought, although he said his was a non-architect's opinion, that the three major elements did not come together, that the whole was still less than the sum of its parts. He said it was not the function of the Commission to design the memorial, and he thought the comments that had been made had often been taken too literally. He felt that someone needed to take a fresh look and figure out how to put the elements together. He said he would vote against the design.

Vice-Chairman Porterfield also felt that the elements did not come together as a whole, and he regretted that there was

no clear statement about the war that would be relevant to future generations. He said that because of his extremely tangential connection with the original designers, he thought it would be in the best interests of the Commission and himself if he would abstain from voting.

Mr. Hartman seconded Mr. Peck's comments, but he thought the design had come a long way, and was becoming increasingly an integrated whole. He said he had reservations about the relationship of the figures to the rows, and the wall to the axis of the city street grid, but he thought these could be worked out, and he would vote for concept approval.

Ms. Chatfield-Taylor said she agreed with much that had been said. She said she would vote against the design without prejudice, but with optimism that a better design, including some or all of the elements, would emerge.

The Chairman thought there were several areas that needed improvement: He thought the wall should have an all-over mural pattern that would read as a blur from the north side of the triangular area. He did not like the paving in this area or the planting as currently construed; he thought the striped effect could possibly be achieved by using two kinds of plant material. He thought the public should be kept out of the field of soldiers. He said he was very persuaded by the copse of trees and its role as the climax of the experience; he noted the contemplative atmosphere and the view of the sky through the circular opening formed by the trees. He said he would vote for the design, with reservations. He noted the unusual split in the Commission, and said he thought it resulted from the high regard the members had for those who had participated, and the high standards the Commission had for what the ultimate solution should be.

Mr. Peck made a motion that the design be disapproved; it was seconded and resulted in a tie vote: Mr. Peck and Ms. Chatfield-Taylor voted for disapproval, and the Chairman and Mr. Hartman voted for approval; Vice-Chairman Porterfield abstained from voting. Exhibit C

D. General Services Administration

CFA 24/OCT/91-4, Federal Trade Commission, 6th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Design for paving and sidewalk repair. Mr. Carson said the sidewalks and other paving in this area were deteriorating and the replacement would be more or less like the existing. He said the materials would be compatible with the Mall roads study now going on, and that the street trees would ultimately be the American elm. He introduced Brian Stephenson from the firm of Stephenson & Good, landscape architects.

Mr. Stephenson showed drawings and pointed out where the new sidewalks would meet the PADC streetscape; he said the PADC planting, although not the paving, would be continued on 7th Street. The sidewalks would be exposed concrete aggregate with brick bands--the standard for the area as determined by the Mall roads study. Trees would be installed according to NCPC's Special Streets plan, and other plantings would also conform to that plan. Paving on the plaza at the apex of the building would also be replaced, as would that in the interior courtyard.

The paving and landscape plans were approved as shown, but approval was made contingent on the installation of a 4-foot-high hedge around the playground area at the apex so that the play equipment would be completely screened from view. The Chairman noted that the Commission had requested this when it approved the playground. He commented that the wood equipment was an eyesore and not suited to the monumental core of Washington. Mr. Stephenson said he did not see any problem with having the hedge put in place. Exhibit D

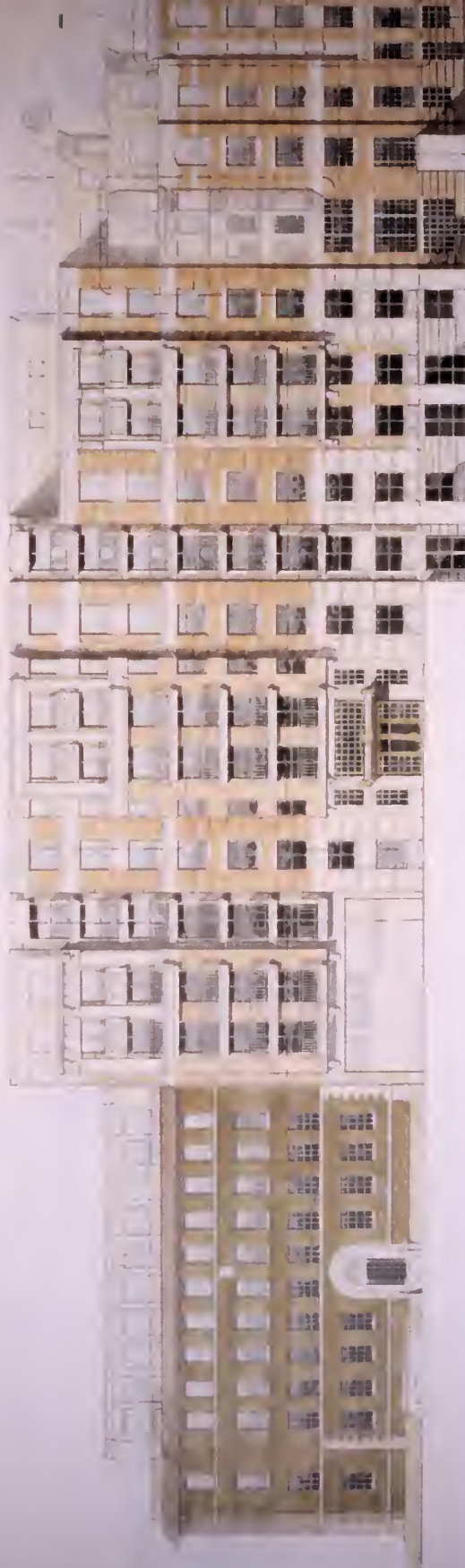
D. Department of Veterans Affairs

CFA 24/OCT/91-5, Veterans Administration Medical Center, North Capitol and Irving streets, N.W. Plans for interim child development facility. Mr. Martinez said this temporary facility would consist of two trailers, one of which had already been placed; he showed drawings for the temporary facility and also one of the master plan, pointing out the location reserved for the permanent facility. He then introduced Sharon Blom from Blitz Associates, the consultants for the project.

Ms. Blom said they expected the two trailers to be used for about five years; she said they would not be placed on permanent bases. She showed elevations and a site plan, noting that the trailers would be buffered by landscaping. There was a discussion of the orientation of one of the trailers, whether it should be on the orthogonal grid or perpendicular to the parking lot, as shown; it was agreed that the most important thing was to use a heavier, more natural landscaping, employing large trees, such as white pines, to screen the trailers in this important location; if at all possible, this landscaping should be integrated with the long-range plans. With that recommendation, the plans were unanimously approved. Exhibit E

F. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act



WESTBROOKE PLACE

REMODELING OF
CLINTON - 100

S.L. 91 - 1, 2 & 9

2201 - 2225 N Street, N.W.

The Westbrooke

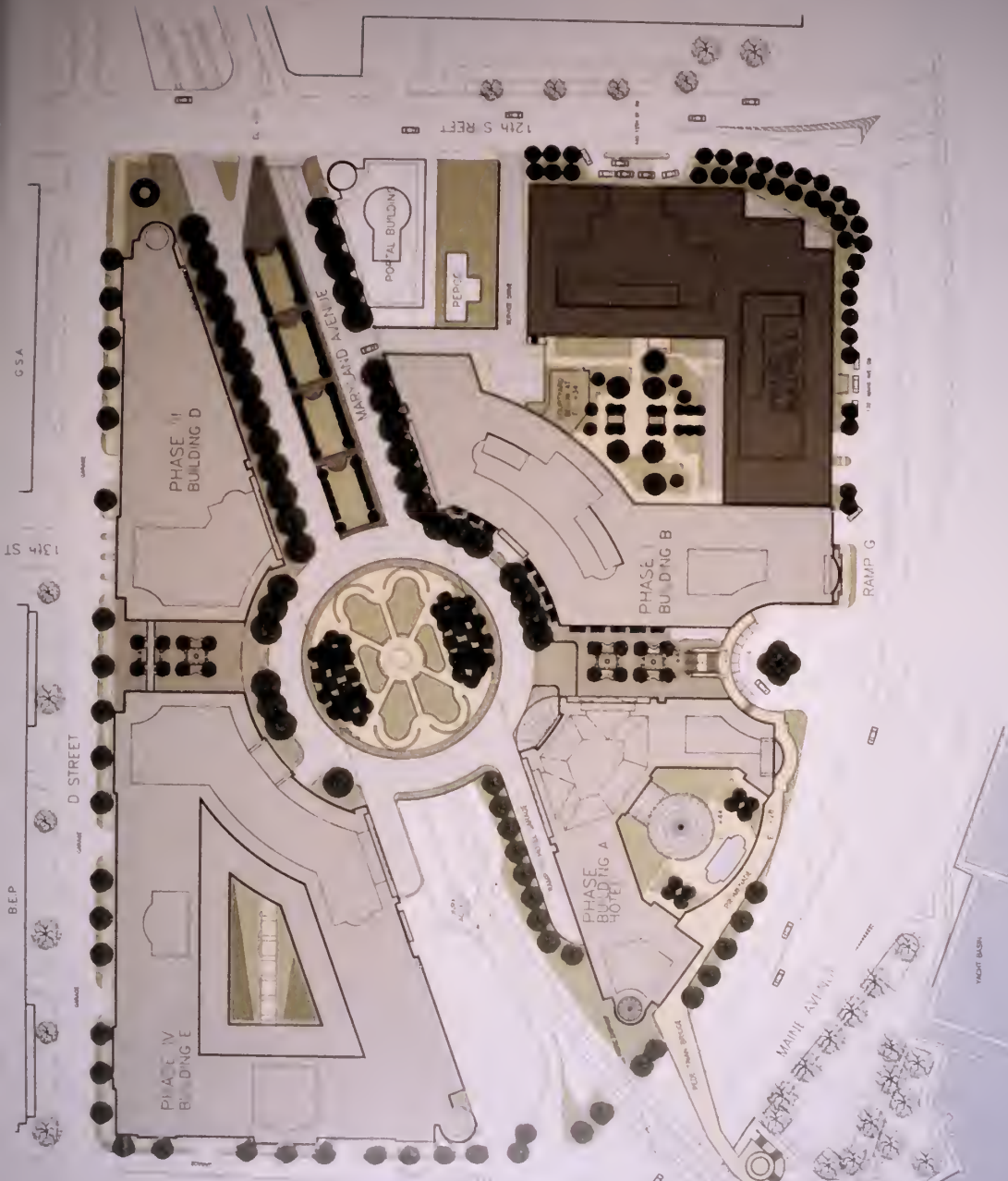
a. S.L. 92-1, 92-2, 92-9, 2201 N Street, N.W., 2225 N Street, N.W. Multi-story residential building; additions and alterations to existing structure. Permit. (Previous: S.L. 91-66, CFA 21/FEB/91.) Mr. Martinez said this was actually three projects in one: final designs for a new high-rise residential building, a permit for excavation, and final plans for the restoration of and addition to a landmark structure. He said the developer had sent a letter to the Commission detailing changes made to the approved concept design: removal of the mechanical equipment penthouse (at the request of the community) and replacement of the pedestrian bridges over the areaway with walls containing air intakes for the parking garage. He said letters had also been received from the ANC, stating some concern about materials and the character of the building. Mr. Martinez said the Commission had been concerned earlier about landscaping on the park side; he said the Park Service was still working on this and wanted to see the building started before completing landscaping plans; the final plans would be brought to the Commission for approval.

David Fitch, representing IBG, the developers, was introduced and turned the discussion over to Ken Kishimoto, from Dewberry, Davis, Habib, architects. He said the building would be predominantly brick, and he showed samples. The basic color was salmon red, with a light grey color used at the base and top. A light-colored cast material would be used for the architectural features, and a dark brick for trim. He showed drawings, noting the changes at the roof and at the English basement level. He said a mock-up of the materials would be erected on the site for the Commission to see.

Pamela Taylor, representing the ANC, said she thought they could work out their difficulties with the developer. The Chairman asked that the staff, too, work with those concerned on any remaining problems. There were no objections to the plans as presented, but final approval was withheld until the details had been worked out. Exhibit F

b. S.L. 92-8, 445 12th Street, S.W. The Portals, Phase II; new office building. Conceptual. (Previous: CFA 20/APR/89-1.) Mr. Carson noted that the members had visited the site on their pre-meeting tour, and before introducing the architect, Arthur Cotton Moore, he commented that the drawings varied slightly from those approved previously.

Mr. Peck said he would recuse himself on this project because his law firm represented some parties with an interest in the project, but with the Commission's approval, he would like to listen to the presentation. There were no objections.



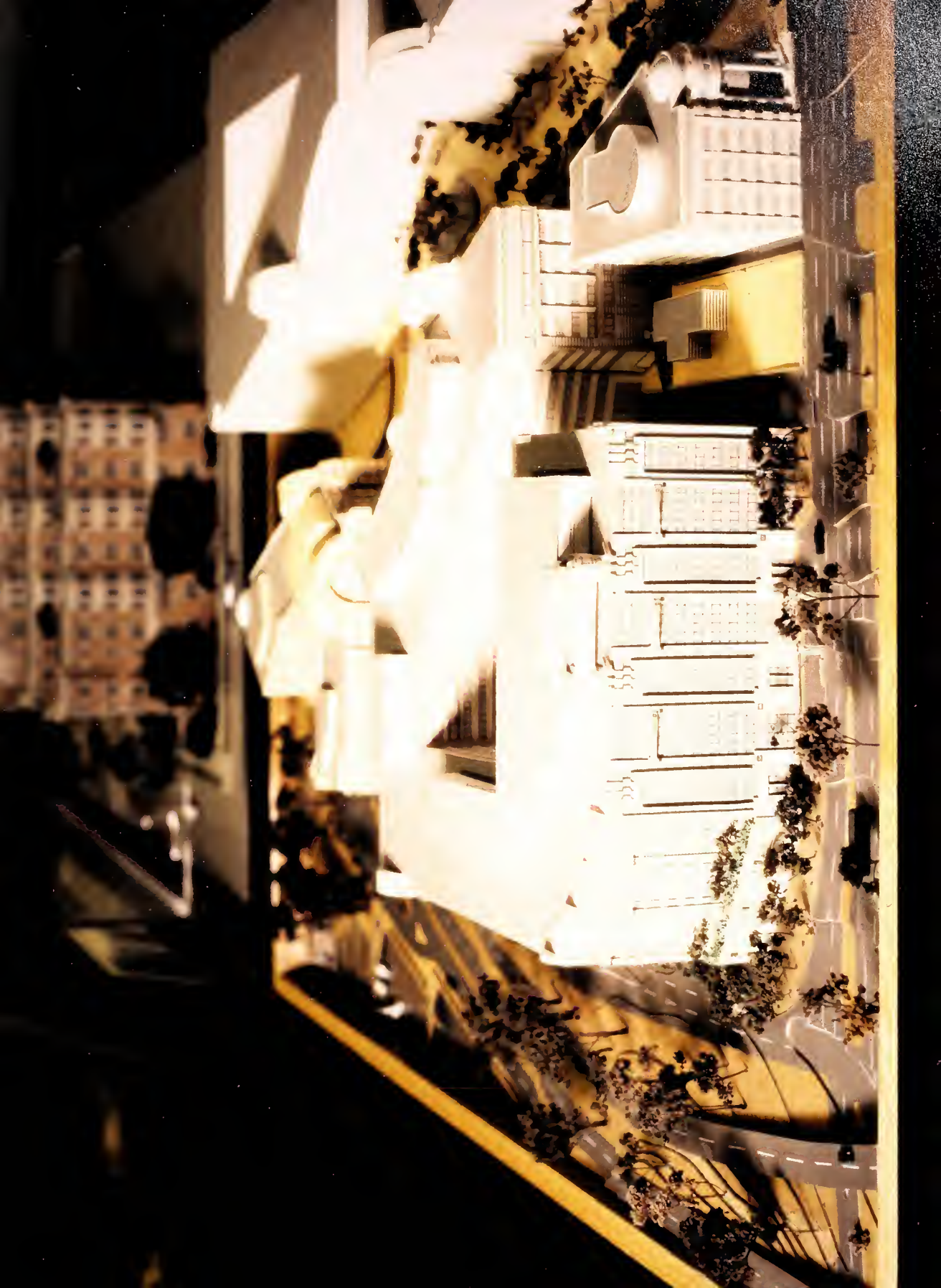
SITE PLAN
NORTH

The PORTALS

S.L. 92 - 8

445 12th Street, S.W. -

The Portals



S.L. 92 - 8

445 12th Street, S.W. -

The Portals



S.L. 92 - 8

445 12th Street, S.W. -

The Portals

Mr. Moore reviewed his concept for developing the site--a 20-acre industrial pit with a railroad running through it--by creating a kind of human plane, a plaza over the railroad, that would re-establish the axis of Maryland Avenue, and emphasize the view of the Capitol, creating the sense of a portal. He said Phase I was nearing completion, and they had a tenant for the Phase II building. The tenant needed a 30 by 30 grid and wanted the building's emphasis to be on 12th Street, with a change in design on this facade to differentiate it from the rest of the project; these requirements had resulted in some changes to the previously approved drawings. On the 12th Street facade, there would be a series of tower elements that would step the building down the slope of the street; then the sense of the first building would be continued along Maryland Avenue. Mr. Moore said he did not think a different facade design on 12th Street would be an unusual departure; he said it could be seen all through the Federal Triangle. He showed the new drawings for this facade, noting that the arched forms on top hid a great deal of mechanical equipment. Other arches would be lit at night, bringing some life to what was otherwise a dull street. He showed other details, including decorative door panels.

The Chairman said he was concerned about the great length of the facade facing the waterfront. Mr. Hartman agreed that the vitality of the project ran out a little too quickly to the east. Mr. Moore said the elevation drawings were really deceiving, because a freeway ramp cut across that facade, obscuring some of it, and it would not appear with the monotonous sameness shown on the drawing. The Chairman and Mr. Hartman were satisfied with this explanation, and the revised concept drawings were unanimously approved. Exhibit F

c. S.L. 92-7, 809 15th Street, N.W. Southern Building; enclosure for sidewalk cafe. Conceptual. Mr. Martinez introduced the architect, Shalom Baranes, to discuss his proposal. Mr. Baranes showed a photo of the existing cafe, with tables and umbrellas, and noted that it had received Commission approval. He said the owners would like to have an enclosed structure, adjacent to the alley, attached to the building, that could be used all year round. It would be 16-feet square. It would be open in the summer, with clear window panels added in the winter. It was designed in a classic style; the material would be either steel or aluminum.

The Chairman recalled that both the Commission and the District Government had said that such structures in public space had to be and look demountable, and he thought that although the structure itself was handsome, it could set a bad precedent. Mr. Peck said the other side of the coin was that demountable structures usually looked awful and ended up being permanent. The Chairman thought Mr. Baranes was capable of

making a good-looking lean-to structure, but he said he was bothered by having it right next to the alley. Ms. Chatfield-Taylor agreed, and Vice-Chairman Porterfield thought it was too permanent-looking and should not be used in the winter. Mr. Hartman said one possibility would be to move it near the curb; this would get it away from the building, which was a landmark and really should not have anything attached to it. There was some further discussion, and then unanimous agreement that the structure shown could not be approved; Mr. Baranes was asked to give it more study. Exhibit F

d. Appendix I. The Appendix for Shipstead-Luce cases was approved without objection.

2. Old Georgetown Act

a. O.G. 91-76, 3900 Reservoir Road, N.W. Georgetown University Hospital, new research building. The Assistant Secretary said this building would be erected on the terrace end of the hospital, flanking Glover-Archbold Park and the university's athletic field. He said the Georgetown Board had reviewed the design four times, twice informally before a review by the Board of Zoning Adjustment required the removal of at least one floor on the park side and further adjustments to comply with recommendations made by the Georgetown Board. After the zoning decision, the Board twice reviewed a scheme that showed two floors removed from the park side and one toward the campus, with some attempt to bring the design more in character with other campus buildings in the vicinity. Still unhappy with the result after its October meeting, the Board issued its report to the Commission, which the Assistant Secretary read, and which recommended: "That the Commission disapprove the concept design and recommend that the applicants further lower the height of the proposed building, reduce its mass, and simplify its geometry and character so as to be more compatible with the character of the other terrace buildings." The Assistant Secretary said the Park Service was in agreement with the Board's report.

Mr. Larry Sauer, from the architectural firm of Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum, was introduced to discuss the design. He showed slides, pointing out how much of the building would be seen from the athletic fields and various parts of the terraced area of the campus. He said the land rose towards Reservoir Road, so visibility would not be a problem from that area. The Assistant Secretary noted, however, that the building would be extremely visible from Glover-Archbold Park. Mr. Sauer showed slides of other buildings in the area and then pointed out similar design features in his building. He said the two wings of the building corresponded to the two programs it would house.



O.G. 91 - 76

3900 Reservoir Road, N.W. -

Medical Research Building



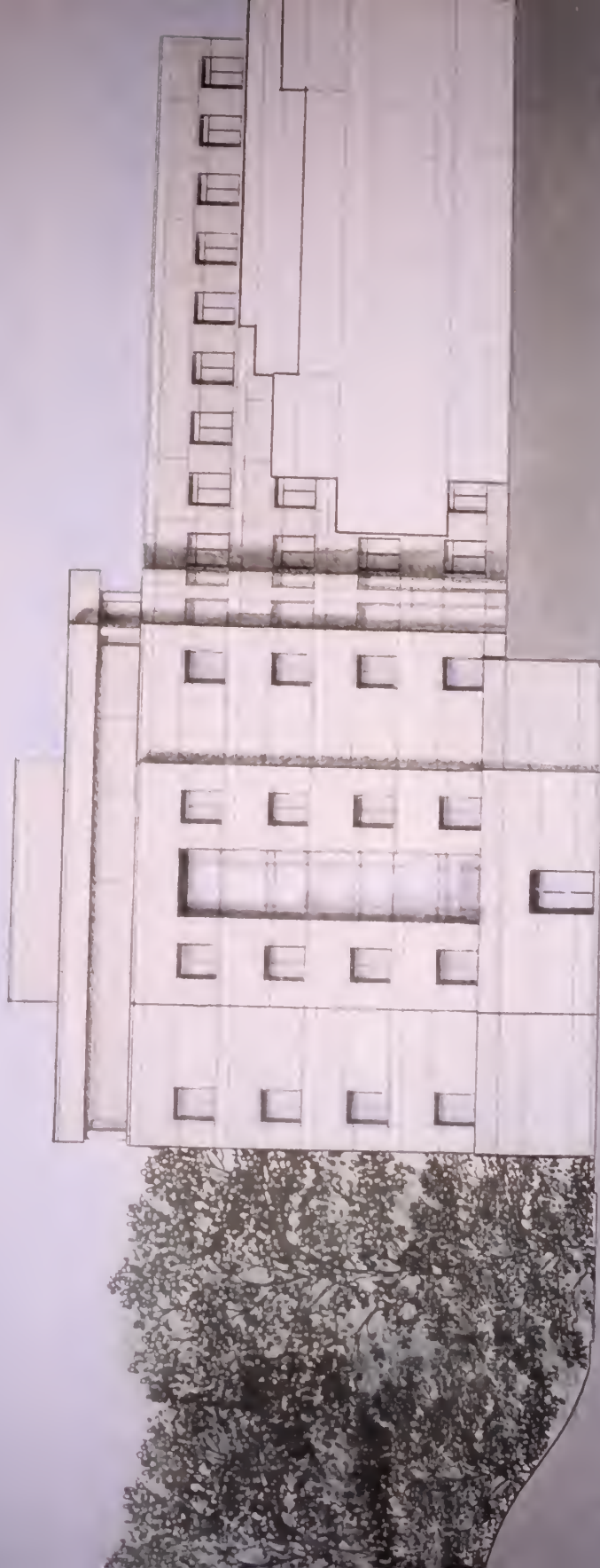
GROUND LEVEL

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY - THE NEW RESEARCH BUILDING - SOUTH ELEVATION W / LOMBARDI ADDITION - H.O.K. ARCHITECTS - SEPT. 26, 1991

O.G. 91 - 76

3900 Reservoir Road, N.W. -

Medical Research Building



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

THE NEW RESEARCH BUILDING

EAST ELEVATION

H.O.K. ARCHITECTS

SEPT. 26, 1991

O.G. 91 - 76

3900 Reservoir Road, N.W. -

Medical Research Building

The Chairman said he was concerned that the design was neither Georgian like the old hospital building nor related to recent modern construction in the area. He and the other members present agreed with the Georgetown Board's conclusions regarding the design, height and mass. He said he understood that the university would not accept the Board's advice unless the Commission agreed and turned the project down; on the basis of what had been seen and the reaction of the members, he thought he could say that the Commission unanimously disapproved the design, and the university would have to go back to the Georgetown Board.

Dean Price, architect emeritus of Georgetown University, asked to comment. He said the Georgetown Board was not looking at the whole picture; he talked about the master plan, which, he said, former Commission member Gordon Bunshaft had helped to develop along Beaux-Arts principles. He said the amount of bulk and mass for proposed buildings had been specified, towers, green space, etc. provided for, and the university, under his direction, had been following this plan for twenty years. The Assistant Secretary said the Georgetown Board was fully aware of the master plan, but thought this project needed to go further to meet its requirements.

b. Appendix II. The Georgetown Appendix was approved without objection. Exhibit F

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Signed,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

31 October 1991

EXHIBIT A

Dear Mr. Hauser:

During its meeting 24 October 1991, the Commission of Fine Arts considered a design for "interim public improvements" to the F Street plaza flanking the south entrance front of the National Portrait Gallery. In addition, the members were asked to comment on a proposed master plan for the 8th Street corridor.

There is little doubt that the condition of the plaza is less than sterling and that the area in general would benefit by a system of sound maintenance. However, should circumstances require, it would be more advantageous to have a quality "interim" renovation simple and pleasing enough to last indefinitely. We all know how temporary "temporary" can be. Nevertheless, given the current situation and the material provided, the Commission can find little fault with the suggested interim improvements and, moreover, the members are satisfied with your assurance that the existing central fountain mechanism will be protected. In this spirit, it would be prudent to make such intentions specific in the contract drawings. The final incarnation of the plaza would probably benefit by a water feature.

At this point, a word or two of caution would be advisable with respect to details. The proposed infill of tree spaces with Belgian block is not recommended when the surrounding area is entirely paved; witness the poor growth of the F Street Mall trees. Another area of concern is the elevations of the proposed copings framing the new planting areas, especially in front of the Portrait Gallery entrance. It is essential that all the major architectural lines be absolutely level and not sloped to accommodate the changes in east-west grade that occur on F Street. Anything in conflict with the powerful symmetry and repose of the Mills facade would be most unfortunate. Prudence requires that the contract drawings include specific running elevations to ensure this does not happen.

Mr. Hauser
Page Two

In part, these recommendations are an outgrowth of the reactions of some of the members to the master plan itself. Plainly, the concept has controversial aspects. With respect to the F Street plaza, two aspects of the challenge should be taken into account. The first of these is that some could argue that there is a visual axis between Union Station and the Treasury Building that should not be ignored. The second is that this space is already defined by strongly delineated classical buildings in relation to which one expects a complementary streetscape in the same character. Perhaps this is not the place for a tour de force; one already exists.

While the Commission realizes that the plan provided was only a concept, it seems best to make any fundamental reservations known as early as possible. The members look forward to seeing additional studies as they develop.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Carter Brown', written over a large, stylized capital 'J'.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Richard Hauser, Chairman
Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation
Suite 1220 North
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-1703

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EXHIBIT B

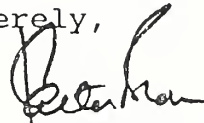
31 October 1991

Dear Mr. Johnson:

During its meeting 24 October 1991, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the final drawings and material selection for the proposed chancery of Singapore at the International Center. The members regret the changes to the concept design approved October 1990. At that time, the Commission was impressed by the sophistication of the plan and the care taken in the selection of the materials. The current modification of the windows, and the substitutions of stone with brick and teak screens and railings with aluminum, greatly diminish the architectural quality of this important addition to the International Center.

In a unanimous decision, the members recommended against these changes and urge the Government of Singapore and the architect to reconsider the original approved design.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Herbert W. Johnson
Project Manager
International Center Project
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

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ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

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EXHIBIT C

31 October 1991

Dear General Kelly:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed a revised design for the Korean War Veterans Memorial at its meeting on 24 October. At the end of the discussion there was a motion to disapprove, which did not carry but ended in a tie vote. The feelings of the members present and voting were split as to whether the new design constituted a significant improvement and could be developed satisfactorily, or whether it still left unresolved the problem of integrating the three separate elements into one memorial experience.

Several areas were discussed. The circulation pattern for visitors within the field of soldiers was questioned, with the temptation to step across the planted areas noted. There was also a feeling that too much granite was being used in the memorial, and the suggestion was made that the effect of stripes might be achieved as effectively with two kinds of plant material. A recommendation was put forth that visitors should be excluded altogether from the field of soldiers; visitors will come close enough to examine them along the edges and especially as they approach the apex.

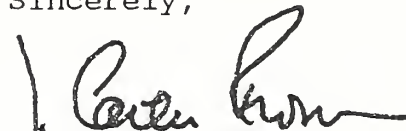
The new design for the etched images on the wall was not considered an improvement. The large faces were distracting, and it was thought that an overall pattern of figures, appearing somewhat blurred from across the field of soldiers, would be less jarring and would invite the visitor to approach the wall and examine it more closely.

While all agreed that the memorial copse was in itself beautiful, there were questions as to whether the visitor would be drawn into the area after having arrived at the flag. Perhaps some low seating to accommodate those who wish to linger would be welcomed.

General Kelly
Page Two

The Commission will be meeting again on 21 November, and would be happy to consider further proposals, or, indeed, an all-new proposal, at that time or subsequently as you prefer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

General Paul X. Kelly
American Battle Monuments Commission
5127 Pulaski Building
20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20314

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING
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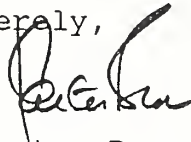
31 October 1991

EXHIBIT D

Dear Mr. Borges:

During its meeting 24 October 1991, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved renovation plans for the public sidewalks and landscaping adjacent to the Federal Trade Commission Building on Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues between 6th and 7th Streets, N.W. Rather than the hybrid Homestead elms proposed, the members understand that National Park Service American elm trees will be planted at the curb under a separate contract. While the Commission has no problem with these plans, approval is predicated on changes to the existing landscaping around the child day care playground. As originally approved, the Commission strongly advocated planting a four-foot-high evergreen hedge to screen the play area from public space. This was not done. Therefore, the members recommend replacing the existing plant material as part of the current contract work. The staff is available should further questions arise.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. John Borges, Project Officer
Design and Construction Division
General Services Administration
National Capital Region
Washington, D.C. 20407

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
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EXHIBIT E

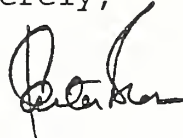
31 October 1991

Dear Mr. Williams:

During its 24 October 1991 meeting the Commission reviewed and reluctantly approved the proposed child development center for the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Our reluctance stemmed from locating part of the facility with an orientation askew from the geometry of the approved master plan. This is a temporary facility which can be screened from adjacent roads by masses, versus lines, of substantial planting. Clumps of white pines, for example, should be included as a part of the initial project. This is, after all, a cluster of trailers in a very visible spot.

A more critical issue may be getting together as soon as possible to look at the Center's master plan. Emergency, or "ad hoc", planning is not suitable for a campus with such a major public investment and such visibility.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Timothy B. Williams, Director
Department of Veterans Affairs
Medical Center
50 Irving Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20422

AGENDA ITEM EXHIBITS

24 October 1991

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 92-1	2201 N Street, N.W.	New residential
HPA. 92-4	Citistate/IBG No. 1 Ltd. Part. Westbrooke Place, Phase I	building - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed residential building. Facade design refinements have been approved as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 9 January 1992. The landscape plan will be coordinated with the National Park Service and referred to the Commission for confirmation. On-site mock-up of material samples to be erected for review prior to construction of walls.

S.L. 92-2	2225 N Street, N.W.	Additions and
HPA. 92-5	Citistate/IBG No.1 Ltd. Part. Westbrooke Place, Phase II	alterations - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed additions and alterations to existing structure as part of the development of a new residential building. Note is made that some facade design refinement can result from ongoing community discussions which will be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for confirmation. Likewise, the landscape plan will be coordinated with the National Park Service and referred to the Commission for confirmation. On-site material samples mock-up to be erected for review by Commission prior to construction of walls.

S.L. 92-9	2201 N Street, N.W.	Foundations
HPA. 92-15	Citistate/IBG No. 1 Ltd. Part.	- permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed foundation and site work.

24 October 1991

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 92-7	809 Fifteenth Street, N.W.	Enclosed
HPA. 92-10	Southern Building Associates Cafe Notte Luna	sidewalk cafe - conceptual

ACTION: Recommend AGAINST design for proposed sidewalk cafe enclosure. Proposed monumental character suggests a permanence and elaboration which is inconsistent with the light and airy structures usually associated with sidewalk dining facilities.

S.L. 92-8	445 12th Street, S.W. Parcel 49C Partnership The Portals, Phase II	New office building - conceptual
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ACTION: No objection to the concept design for Phase II of The Portals development. Submit working drawings for review when ready.

O.G. 91-76	3900 Reservoir Road, N.W.	New building -
HPA. 91-393	Georgetown University Research Building	conceptual

ACTION: No Action taken.
